

Applicant : Murray Orpin  
Serial No. : 10/715,948  
Page : 9

#### REMARKS

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's review of the specification, claims, and drawings. In light of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application. The amendments and remarks presented herein are fully supported by the application as originally filed. No new matter has been entered.

#### STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-37 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, and 18 have been amended and new dependent Claims 29-37 have been entered herein. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested in view of the following comments.

#### CLAIM OBJECTIONS:

The Examiner objects to Claims 2, 10, and 18 for several informalities. Applicant has amended Claims 2, 10, and 18 as suggested by the Examiner, as well as Claims 1, 9, and 17 to provide consistency between the Claims.

#### CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112:

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-28 as being indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner rejects the claim terminology "obtainable" as rendering the claims indefinite.

Accordingly, Applicant has amended Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, and 18 to recite that the resin is obtained . . . .

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the claims overcome the indefiniteness rejection and respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicant : Murray Orpin  
Serial No. : 10/715,948  
Page : 10

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 1-24 stand rejected as allegedly being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) by Garrett (U.S.-A-4,067,829). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections, in view of the amendments made herein and the comments set forth below.

As previously noted in the Response filed March 23, 2005, Example 1 of Garrett discloses that the resole resin is prepared by reacting phenol and an aldehyde (formaldehyde) in the presence of an alkaline catalyst (sodium hydroxide) at 65°C, followed by neutralisation to a pH of about 7.0 (see column 6, lines 21-28 of Garrett). There is no disclosure or suggestion in Garrett that the reactivity of the resole resin can be altered by altering the neutralisation pH below the "about 7.0" disclosed in Garrett. The arguments and technical data referenced in the March 23, 2005 Response, are incorporated herein by reference.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-37 are now patentable over Garrett. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all the claims, namely Claims 1-37, and early passage to issue of the present application.

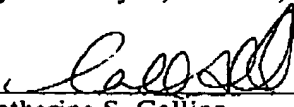
Should the Examiner have any questions or suggestions, she is invited to contact the undersigned at (616) 975-5506.

Respectfully submitted,

MURRAY ORPIN

By: Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn & Burkhardt, LLP

June 30, 2005  
Date

  
Catherine S. Collins  
Registration No. 37 599  
2851 Charlevoix Drive, S.E., Suite 207  
P.O. Box 888695  
Grand Rapids, MI 49588-8695  
(616) 975-5500

CSC:lmasc